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Guinea-Bissau

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Acronyms and abbreviations

UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
AMAE	Association of Women Economic Activity
AMIC	Friends of Children Association
ANP	National Assembly
ARV	Antiretroviral
ATV	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
CDC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
CEMGFA	Chief of the Armed Forces
CENFOJ	Judicial Training Centre
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NCRD	National Commission for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
CPLP	Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries
CRGB	Constitution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau
PRSP II	National Strategic Document for Poverty Reduction
EPU	UPR
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
GICJU	Office of Information and Legal Advice
ILAP	Light Survey for Poverty Assessment
BMI	Women's Institute and Child
INASA	National Institute of Health
INE	National Statistics Institute
NASA	AIDS Spending Assessment
MEN	Ministry of Education
MICS	Multiple Indicators
MDGs	Millennium Development Goal
WHO	World Health Organization
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
CSO	Civil Society Organization
PGR	Attorney General of the Republic
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
PNDS II	National Health Development Plan
PNIEG	National Plan for Equality and Gender Equity

UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ICC	International Criminal Court
PMTCT/AIDS	Prevention and Mother and Child Transmission
SAB	Autonomous Sector of Bissau
STJ	Supreme Court
ART	Antiretroviral Treatment
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ONUMULHER	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNIOGBIS	United Nations Integrated Office for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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I. Some thoughts about the country, political system and legal framework

A. Country's context

1. Guinea-Bissau has a surface of 36,125 square kilometers and an estimated population of 1.7 million, representing 51.67% of women and 49.33% of men, according to data from the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC), representing almost a balance between the sexes. The rate of population density is five (5) persons per km, the currency is the CFA (African Financial Community), which has a fixed exchange rate against the Euro of € 1 = 655.957 CFA.

2. The employment situation, especially for young people, has not improved significantly. The employment rate for the age group of 15–24 years was 10.6% in 2009, of which 4.6% are women. Taking into account underemployment and youth unemployment, the unemployment rate should be around 30%. For this reason, employment will be the focus of the strategic options of the Government in terms of agriculture, fisheries and processing activities.

3. The country is located in West Africa, between the Equator and the Tropic of Cancer, and shares borders with the Republic of Senegal in the north, Guinea in the east and south, and facing the Atlantic Ocean in the west. It is made up of a mainland and more than 48 islands and islets (archipelago of Bijagos), most of them uninhabited. The country is crossed by a dense network of rivers (Cacheu, Mansoa, Geba, Corubal and Tombali), lakes and estuaries.

B. Political context

4. Guinea-Bissau is a sovereign, secular, unitary State with a semi-presidential political system, and works on the basis of the principle of separation of powers. The legitimacy of the legislative power is based on regular elections of members of parliament through direct and secret universal suffrage.

5. The State abides by the Constitution and is based on democratic legality. All laws and other state and local government acts depend on its compliance with the Constitution. The Constitution provides that the rules relating to fundamental rights are to be interpreted in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 29), and that the death penalty will not be applied under any circumstances (Article 36), and that the defence and security forces are non-partisan (Article 21).

6. However, the country has experienced successive coups, after the adoption of multi-party democracy, with the first general elections of 1994 and emerging sovereign bodies of elections never reached the end of the term. Moreover, the consequences were a setback at all levels: with the coup of April 12, 2012 the State of Guinea Bissau was strongly dimmed by isolation from the international community and the population has borne hard with the consequences of the sanctions imposed.

C. Methodology

7. For the preparation of Guinea-Bissau's report on human rights to be assessed in the UPR, the Prime Minister has delegated to the Minister of Justice's power to direct the work,

as the Government member responsible for the justice sector, institution in charge of the affairs of human rights.

8. In this connection, the Minister of Justice decided, by Order No. 27 / GMJ / 2014, 7 October, to create a working group for this purpose, which includes representatives of Primatura, Ministry of Justice, National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports, National Assembly, Ministry of Women, Family and Social Cohesion, Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

9. The report was prepared on the basis of the guidelines of Resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, the Human Rights Council, and general guidelines for the preparation of information, established under the Universal Periodic Review (document / HRC /L.24).

10. This national report covers the entire national territory and, in its elaboration, was used the bibliographic research methodology, inquiry, comparative analysis method between formal elements and materials, with real elements of everyday life, i.e. the practical application of the constitutional and legal instruments.

11. The UPR is a procedure established by the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council.

12. Guinea-Bissau is part of the Country group which shall submit a report on the applicability of human rights in the country.

D. Legal framework

1. National human rights standards

13. Guinea-Bissau has far-reaching legal instruments on human rights. These instruments are made by the Basic Law, which is the Constitution, the ordinary laws and implementing regulations.

14. Thus, besides the Constitution and ordinary laws approving the Civil Code and Civil Procedure, Criminal and Criminal Procedure, the General Labor Law and Personnel status of Public Administration and Minor status, there are several legal instruments on implementation, in domestic law, international instruments, among which are the following:

(a) Law No. 4/76, of 3 May, extinguishing discrimination between legitimate and illegitimate children;

(b) Law No. 3/76 of 3 May, which regulates unmarried partners;

(c) Decree-Law No.11/2010 of 14 June, which guarantees citizens access to law and justice;

(d) Decree-Law No.4/2010 of 14 July, regulating the Organic Law of the Judicial Courts;

(e) Decree Law No.8/2010 of 14 June amending the code of legal costs;

(f) Decree Law No. 14/2010 of 15 November, approving the Organic Statute of the Judicial Police;

(g) Decree Law No.10/2010 of 14 June approving the Regulation of the detention centers;

(h) Decree Law No. 12/2011 3 February, laying down minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners;

(i) Law No. 3/2011 approving the Statute of Prison Guards;

(j) Law No. 7/2011, February 2, which regulates the organization, operation and forms of Execution Penalty Court process;

(k) Law No. 6/2011 amending the Organic Law of the Courts;

(l) Law No. 15/2011 approving the mid-term review of the Criminal Procedure Code;

(m) Law No. 14/2011, July 6 on the Prevention, Combating and Repression of Female Genital Mutilation;

(n) Law No. 12/2011 on the Prevention, Suppression and Combating of Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;

(o) Law No. 8/2011 on criminal investigation;

(p) Decree-Law No. 1/2011 establishing the National Plan for civil registration.

2. Regional human rights standards

15. At a regional level the most important instruments referred to are:

(a) The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;

(b) The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

(c) The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women (Maputo Protocol).

3. International human rights standards

16. The international instruments on human rights, ratified by Guinea-Bissau are:

(a) The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

(b) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(c) The First Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(d) The Second Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aimed at abolishing the death penalty;

(e) The International Convention on all Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(f) The Protocol to the International Convention on all Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(g) The Convention on Child Rights;

(h) The Optional Protocol to the Convention on Child Rights, concerning the sale, prostitution and child pornography;

(i) The Optional Protocol to the Child Rights Convention, on involvement of children in armed conflicts;

(j) The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment;

(k) The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(l) The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;

(m) The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

17. These international instruments are in the process of being incorporated into domestic law.

E. Technical cooperation with international institutions

18. The cross cutting issue of human rights is taken up by different sectors that make up the Guinean society as a whole. Within this perspective, the authorities have ruled and privileged in this area a constructive dialogue with national and international partners.

19. The newly elected government has been promoting actions to promote the development of a framework of procedures for the significant improvement of cooperation with international and regional human rights institutions. This relationship has been based on the need for consultation on the achievements programmed by Guinea Bissau, the *modus operandi*, the partnership or assistance of international institutions, in particular in cases of preparing reports on the conventions already ratified.

20. The United Nations system is a privileged partner of Guinea-Bissau in the acts of reports preparation who supports the country in its technical and financial demands giving technical assistance to be enforced to the preparation of sectorial reports.

21. In this regard, it is good to note that Guinea-Bissau's Government issued an open invitation to the Special Procedures of the UN System / Human Rights Council in particular the Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts, in January 2011, to visit Guinea Bissau at any time, which demonstrates the clear will to continue to promote and protect human rights in the country.

22. Thus, it was in this context that the Special Rapporteur on poverty, the Human Rights Council, visited the country in 2014 during the transition period.

II. Implementation of the recommendations made under the first Universal Periodic Review, 8th session of the Human Rights Council, 7-11/ 05/2010

Strengthening of the National Human Rights Protection System

1. Reform of the justice sector

23. Judiciary power represents an opportunity for citizens to see their constitutional rights granted and their conflicts resolved; it's a valid alternative in a democratic rule of law. It is through the courts that citizens have the opportunity to challenge the illegal acts of public administration. Moreover, it is through the law that citizens must resolve their differences in cases where other forms of extra-judicial settlement of conflict are not able to do so.

24. In the context of State reform, the Government proposes to promote the strengthening of public institutions, including the justice sector or relating thereto, such as the courts, the Public Ministry and the Judicial Police and Public Order Police, as well as the Bar Association.

25. Responding to these challenges, the Government has adopted in January 2011, the National Policy for the Justice Sector, 2010 to 2015, to ensure the implementation of the reform program in the justice sector of Guinea Bissau, in response to the Council recommendations of Human Rights.

26. Within this policy, a National Forum of Justice was done, in particular to the Judicial actors, State Institutions and civil society organizations, with support from development partners.

27. As part of the implementation of the reform of the justice sector, the Government proposes to implement rehabilitation and / or construction of judicial infrastructure including the construction of facilities for the operation of regional, sectorial higher courts, prisons and detention centers, enabling the separation of men, women and adolescents.

28. To this purpose, it is important to note that we are currently carrying out the works of construction of the Palace of Justice, funded by the Government of the People's Republic of China, under the cooperative relationship framework with Guinea-Bissau.

29. It should also be noted the legislative measures adopted by the government under the reform in the justice sector.

30. Other measures to be implemented have to do with the methods of completing the socio-educational penalties, that is, alternative sentences to imprisonment which sympathize with internationally acceptable minimum standards, and the identification of public institutions or public utility that may benefit from the scheme to provide social work and host institutions for adolescents in conflict with the law.

31. Reorganize the judicial map of Guinea-Bissau as a fundamental step to raise the effective State presence throughout the national territory as an expression of sovereignty of and a factor of social peace.

32. Courts headquarters will be built or renovated in each region, enabling the performance of judicial functions and dignifying the profession.

33. Courts will be provided with all conditions for its operation, enabling faster and more effective realization of justice, thus contributing towards achieving justice.

2. Strategy on access to the right to justice

34. The Constitution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau devoted extensive rights to citizens, not just the access to justice, but also the right to information and legal protection, pursuant to its 32 and 34 articles.

35. Similarly, and in accordance with the 2010 UPR recommendations, Law No. 11/2010 was adopted, from which it created the Office of Information and Legal Advice, consisting of five (5) Access Centers to Justice, scattered in different parts of the country. These centers work in conjunction with the courts, commissions and police stations, detention centers and prisons.

3. Guinean's prison law: procedural aspects and international conventions

36. True Guinean prison system began in 2010/2011 with the construction of two prisons, training of new prison guards and adoption of three legal instruments, in particular the Decrees No 12 and 13, 2011, plus the diploma approving minimum standards for treatment of prisoners, as well as the organizational structure of prisons. Moreover, we have Decree-Law No. 3/2011, which approves the statutes of the prison guards, and Law No. 7/2011 establishing the sentencing court.

37. Therefore, all sentencing proceedings in Guinea-Bissau have to obey the Criminal Procedure Code and Law No. 7/2011 establishing the Court of Enforcement of Penalties.

38. And, by Decree-Law No. 15/2011, of 28 February, the Directorate General of the Prison Service was established, which until then was an integrated service in the Directorate-General for Administration of Justice.

39. It is also noted that the Directorate General of Prison Services is a hierarchical organizational structure, consisting of: three directorate services, namely, Directorate of Prison Services and the Legal Guidance for Prisoners, Assistance Services Directorate, Training, Reintegration and Social Welfare and the Directorate of Administration, Statistics and Heritage, and two organic subunits particular prisons namely Mansoa and Bafatá.

4. Humanization of the prison system

40. As it can be noted from the approved legislation listing in particular minimum standards for the treatment of detainees, Guinea-Bissau sought to fulfill the commitments made in this regard with the publication of the said laws allowing detainees female to be in separate cells with the male.

5. Illegal detention, torture and ill-treatment

41. The CRGB at its article 37, paragraph 2, and article 38, paragraph 1 of the Penal Code proclaim that *"no one shall be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading penalties or treatments"*. Furthermore, the Criminal Procedure Code states that it is absolutely prohibited to obtain evidence through torture, coercion, in general, physical or moral integrity of the people.

42. As it can be noticed from the quotes mentioned above, Guinea-Bissau, as well as creating legal mechanisms to prohibit the illegal detention, torture and ill-treatment, seeks to implement in practice these prohibitions. However, as a result of the weaknesses of State institutions, the violation of these prohibitions cannot always be properly suppressed.

6. Revision of the statutes of the National Commission of Human Rights

43. In line with the strengthening and promotion of human rights, the statutes were reviewed by the National Human Rights Commission, pending approval by the National Assembly in accordance with the Paris Principles.

7. On investigations of politician's and members of the armed forces murders

44. The Prosecutor's Office, according to the Constitution and other laws, holds the prosecution and defender of public and social interests.

45. However, given the recommendations resulting from the first UPR, the prosecutor, had already initiated the processes that run their legal procedures in the Attorney General's Office, on the murders of then Head of State, and then Chief of the General Staff the Armed Forces, and other murders. The proceedings are at an advanced stage of investigation, lacking some steps to make and consequently, the conclusion thereof.

8. Reform of the defence and security sector

46. The repeated interference of the defence and security forces have contributed to political instability and the deterioration of the security environment, thus constituting a serious obstacle to strengthening the rule of law and the consolidation of peace.

47. The approaches of past experiences of demobilization and reintegration programs (DR) had no effect on the expected change in operation of the defence and security forces so that it needs a new approach and other implementation strategies to promote a true republican army and security obeying the rule of law.

48. The Government is aware of the constraints and challenges that the successful implementation of this reform puts to preservation of peace and stability, as well as its sensitivity. These constraints are in particular: the resistance to reform within the defence and security forces; the deficiency of organizational and operational capacity within the

public sector; the low level of training; the proliferation of light and small sizes weapons; the precariousness of living conditions within the defence and security forces and the weak financial capacity of the State to address this situation. The Government intends in its strategy implementation of reform, to mobilize the active support of all stakeholders (civil society, general public, development partners) on the one hand and on the other hand to mobilize the maximum technical and financial resources, to support reform. In this perspective, the support of the international community including the sharing of experience will be essential.

49. In this context, the Government initiated, with the support of partners, an ambitious defence and security sector reform program, whose main objectives are: i) modernization of the sector by improving the legal framework and the strengthening of material and human capacity, ii) creating republican defence and security law-abiding institutions, public service and citizenship. This vast reform program is mainly based on the following: i) scaling of the defence and security forces in the light of current needs and the Country's economic capacities, ii) modernization of the defence and security, iii) safeguard the dignity of the homeland freedom fighters, and iv) participation in sub-regional security consolidation.

50. This new strategy will be part of a dynamic operational implementation plan for the reform of the defence and security sector whose activities are closely with the strategic orientations and priority actions within the roadmap of the most-heads of state of ECOWAS and CPLP, promoted by national and communitarian bodies; regulatory framework of the defence and security forces revised; options such as retirement / pension fund should be consistent with the public administration reform or economic reintegration that will find its articulation with the economic development goals of the Country.

51. In the context of restructuring and modernizing the defence sector, training for the military of the military court in the area of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights were carried out, from July to August 2013. And in 2012, training for the Military Judiciary Police was carried out, organized by UNIOGBIS.

52. However, in truth, one must point out that the reform of the defence and security sector is one of the state priorities of Guinea-Bissau, although the main aspect focuses on the preparation and payment of pension funds, which have not been made totally available.

9. Protection of women and children

(a) Protection of women

53. Confirmation of respect for human rights in the country passes unequivocally for promoting equality between men and women, without which you cannot build a just and developed society. To this end, equality and gender equity is a key area in the political action of the Government in accordance with the MDGs, as well as other internationally agreed development goals.

54. These instruments are very essential to the performance of the objectives of the Government, and are the foundation on which rests the National Policy of Equality and Gender Equity (PNIEG), which provides national authorities a policy framework to ensure women access political, social and economic structures, with a view to improving living conditions for men and women and having been articulated around the following strategic guidelines: improving the legal framework for the promotion and protection of women; improve social, cultural and political status of and women's; economic advancement of women; and institutional strengthening of the framework of promotion of women.

55. In the implementation of the recommendations and initiatives taken in critical areas defined in the Beijing Action programs, and other initiatives and measures identified during

the 23rd Session of the UN General Assembly, the following specific intervention areas are cited : adoption of the national law criminalizing female genital mutilation (law No. 14/2011, of July 6) and the implementation of the awareness program on the harmful effects on women's health and the national strategy to combat female genital mutilation . Let us refer also the adoption of the law against domestic violence, already approved by the National Assembly, and awareness programs on violence against women, the National Strategy for Social Protection of Children; Childhood National Plan.

56. Women's participation problems in the management of public affairs have concerned government authorities. With respect to the spheres of decision, the reality is that only a few women enjoy these rights. For example, at the level of the current government the Women Ministers numbers are five in the sixteen ministers and a Minister of State in the fifteen Secretaries of States representing 30% and 6.6%, respectively. At a parliamentary level, the current legislature, the proportion is fifteen women, and fourteen of them were elected on a total of 102 Members of the Nation's MP's.

(b) Child protection

57. The principle of equality and non - discrimination lies mirrored in many national and international instruments adopted by the country, as well as in various policies and development strategies.

58. The government has made various activities to promote children's rights, among which the following stand out: the creation of the Children's Parliament; the gradual elimination of harmful cultural attitudes and practices towards women and children; the implementation of the follow-up mechanisms of enforcement of the Convention on the Rights of the Children (CRC); disclosure of the CRC; submission of the initial report, second, third and fourth reports on combined application on CRC, Geneva July 7, 2013; existence of the Childhood National Policy and the National Commission for Children Protection; ensuring basic education for all children; ongoing preparation of the National Action Plan to Combat Child Labor; existence of the National Policy Against Human Trafficking.

(c) Measures to be implemented

59. The development of the Action Plan for implementation of the National Equality and Gender Equity Policy; Creation of Regional Centers for integrated approach to Gender and its action plan; promulgation of the Law Against Domestic Violence.

10. Health sector

(a) Combating HIV/AIDS

60. In the field of the fight against AIDS, Guinea-Bissau's Government developed a National Strategic Plan that includes important components of which we highlight the expansion of customer call centers.

61. For implementation of this plan, the Government through the National AIDS Prevention Secretariat has managed the funds from the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as part of Round 7.

62. Regarding the sources of financing, the results show that, in 2012, certain percentage of money to fight AIDS came from the direct bilateral contributions. In addition to those contributions, still stand out funds from multilateral agencies, the contributions of international NGOs and national public contribution.

63. It appears that in 2013, bilateral contributions to the treatment of AIDS in Guinea Bissau decreased significantly. However, the main difficulties encountered by traditional partners of Guinea-Bissau in mobilizing funds for HIV prevention and awareness / AIDS are a result of the international economic crisis.

(b) Reduction of maternal and child mortality

64. Public care facilities in Guinea-Bissau are organized into three levels, providing primary, secondary and tertiary care.

65. Despite efforts by the Government and partners to achieve the MDGs, health indicators still remain at very worrying levels. Child mortality rate has declined over the last fifteen years, but at a relatively slow pace. Consider this: it went from 223 per thousand live births in 1995 to 218 per thousand live births in 2000; 204 in 2005 to 198 in 2007; and then to 158 per thousand live births in 2010 (Source: MICS-4 / IDS). Maternal mortality, estimated at 800 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, still remains at a very high level, higher than the average for countries with similar socio-economic profile.

66. To reduce maternal and child mortality, the Government of Guinea-Bissau, from development partners in the context of MDGs 4 and 5, implemented at a national level, two programs called: H4 +, which is an initiative of the Swedish Government, project coordinated by UNFPA and WHO, aiming the training and capacity building of staff and improve the supply of materials covering all regions of the country; the PIMI Program, which is a project that aims to improve the performance, quality and supply of materials to reduce maternal and child mortality, funded by WHO and UNICEF.

67. In 2013, according to data from INASA, from 54 993pregnant women seen, 16 705 were normal deliveries, which corresponds to 30.4%, given that cesarean births were 1195, corresponding to 7.2%, and obstetric complications were 1533, corresponding to 9.2% and equivalent to 166 deaths. This result leads us to conclude that during the three years there has been considerable reduction of maternal mortality, but just yet not reached the desired performance in terms of reduction of this mortality.

68. Regarding strictly infant mortality, according to the indicators provided by INASA, cases of neonatal mortality in the country continues to increase. And the most prevalent areas remain the autonomous sector of Bissau and Gabu. Infant mortality in the range of 1 to 15 years, related to severe malaria cases in the 2011–2013 period, there has been 491 deaths, of which 103 cases are of pneumonia and 93 cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome and the rest of other pathologies.

69. In 2012, there were 371 severe malaria deaths. And in the same period, 83 deaths were recorded from tetanus and 70 cases of severe pneumonia. For the year 2013, the data shows 417 deaths from severe malaria, 57 deaths resulting from pneumonia and 52 cases of tuberculosis.

70. The recorded data shows that the main causes of mortality are related to malaria diseases, acute respiratory infection and pneumonia.

71. The Government has redoubled efforts to reduce infant mortality rate to preventive measures, vaccination campaigns and preparation of plans and strategy in the health sector.

11. Education sector

72. After forty years of independence, Guinea-Bissau still has an archaic education system, inefficient, with infrastructure disrepair and strong dependence on foreign aid to sustain the system. Therefore, one cannot speak in universal access to education in the country. The retention rate, both in basic education as in general secondary education, is still very low, with particular emphasis in the early grades at these levels.

73. Retention at these levels of education is marked by regional disparities, the environment and gender. For comparison, in the countryside, girls have twice less chance of completing primary school than boys, and in urban areas, girls have less than 1.4% of opportunities as boys.

74. Since 2010, several actions of the education sector reforms are visible to modernize and improve the quality of formal education, focusing on own legal framework of staff, initial and continuous teacher training, basic education curriculum, introduction to year 12th classes, the creation of new spaces, increasing resources for the sector, improved management of these resources, creation of a database, among others.

75. It is to stress that the efforts of the Government and partners to improve the national education system were suspended due to another coup in April 2012, which caused major setbacks in the social sectors, particularly in education, thereby preventing the development of the sector during this transition period.

76. However, the Basic Law on Education (Law No. 04/2011, of 29 March) established that primary education is completely free until 6th grade, and from 7th grade, he tends to be free according to the State's economic possibilities.

77. In the same sequence, we proceeded to draw up a set of structuring documents of the education sector: the Charter of Education Policy, 2009-2020, Three-Year Plan for Development of Education, 2011–2013; Fighting Action Plan against HIV – AIDS in the education sector.

78. In the general guidelines for the academic year 2014/2015, the Ministry of Education confirmed the exemption from fees for the registration to the students of first and second cycle of basic education.

79. In October 2014, an Order produced by the Minister for Education which exempted students with disabilities from payments of rates for enrollment. Special education is part of the special arrangements for education. It was created in the Guinean education system to "provide appropriated education care to individuals with physical or mental disabilities and for gifted children" (art. 33, Law No. 04/2011 of 29 March). Despite the existence in the country of two oriented schools in special education, the National School for the Deaf and Dumb School and the White Cane, there is no official policy defined on inclusive education.

80. However, with the support of a committee established for this purpose by the Ministry of National Education, the Federation of Associations of Defence and Promotion of People with Disabilities (FADPD / GB), is working in collaboration with Handicap International and the European Union, on a project with the purpose of promoting inclusive education in Guinea-Bissau.

The issue of human rights education

81. The Ministry of Education, aware of the importance of respect for fundamental rights of the individual and the role it can play in school socialization in building a more just society, has planned for this academic year 2014/2015, at the school curriculum, "Education for Citizenship" which will address the issues related to human rights and peace culture.

12. Strategies for poverty reduction

82. It is good to note in this regard, the development and adoption of the National Strategy Paper of Poverty Reduction, 2011-2015 (PRSP II), having been consecrated, among many other things, the gender dimension and policies to implement the policy of equality and gender equity. Studies and surveys in recent years have enabled PRSP II to

show the difference between the sexes and better treat woman's contribution to economic growth, social development and good governance.

83. The approach under the PRSP II is developed on two levels: at a cross-level and a sectorial level, to ensure a strong political advocacy on economic and social advancement of women. According to the Survey Small of Poverty Assessment (ILAP), Feb. / 2010, 77.1% of working women are employed in the primary sector and about 23.0% in the tertiary sector, of which 12% in the sub-sector trade.

13. Presentation of reports to treaty bodies

84. The Guinea-Bissau Government presented, cumulative reports - initial, second, third and fourth on effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Geneva, June 7, 2013.

III. Recommendations of the first Periodic Review not implemented

85. In relation to this matter, refer, among others to:

(a) A law protecting defenders of human rights and journalists;

(b) The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

(c) The Optional Protocol to the ICESCR;

(d) The International Convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance;

(e) The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities;

(f) The International Convention on the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families;

(g) The Optional Protocol to the Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

(h) The Registration of the NHRC in the international Coordinating Committee of national human rights institutions.

IV. Combating drug trafficking

86. To combat drug trafficking various measures were implemented, including the adoption of the national plan to combat drugs, creation of the Interpol office, creation of drug combat commission, existence of a unit to combat drug by the Judicial Police and several capacity building training of technicians in the domain of drugs combat.

V. Achievements

87. Taking account of the size of Gender in the National Strategy for Poverty Reduction.

88. Adoption of a cross cutting gender approach in the design, implementation, institutional framework and management, as well as monitoring and evaluation of its implementation; The establishment of Women's Economic Activity Organization (AMAE); creation of the Network of Agricultural Women; granting credit to women, developing

income-generating activities to the financing of the United Nations agencies and bilateral partners; Women training in areas where active, (production, processing, preservation and marketing).

89. Exploratory study on gender-based violence in the university environment; study on the abuse and sexual exploitation of children and the legal instruments against violence; survey on gender-based violence; preparation of the Plan of Action against sexual exploitation of minors; organization of lectures and workshops as well as national workshop on the consequences of violence made against women and children; creating networks of women opinion leaders and former "fanatecas" in eight administrative regions and at a national level for women's awareness and mobilization to denounce harmful practices; existence of Religious Leaders Network in eight regions and one national; radio programs; training, awareness-raising sessions and interventional theaters on FGM issues, domestic violence, human trafficking including women, girls and children, early and forced marriage, discrimination based on gender and juvenile delinquency, the National Committee of Fight Against Harmful Practices; existence of the National Plan on sexual abuse and exploitation; creation of the National Commission for Protection of Children; existence of the National Plan of human trafficking.

90. Carrying out several public awareness seminars on the fundamental rights of women by the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Cohesion; organization of sessions, sensitization campaigns for women's access to decision-making positions; the Law on Human Trafficking, with greater emphasis on women and children; contribution of NGOs in the dissemination, promotion and protection of women's rights; creating focal points in various sectorial ministries to follow the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; Situational Analysis of Gender-based violence, funded by UNFPA and UNDP.

VI. Difficulties and priorities

91. Guinea Bissau, after the coup of April 12, 2012, faces poverty and financial difficulties implementing the government program aimed at sustainable development promotion and protection of human rights therefore needs support from the international community for implementation of the priorities included in the aforementioned program over the next four years.

92. High illiteracy rate among women; weak saving power and women's decision; ignorance on the part of a significant number of women of their rights; insufficiency of the reference structures that occupy of women's victims of domestic violence; weak implementation of legal instruments ratified by the Country on the rights of women; little knowledge and technological processing equipment, marketing, overloaded housekeeping tasks on women, occupying about 80% of their time; weak synergy between the different development partners in the field of protection of women.

VII. Good practices

93. On good practices in the field of promotion and protection of human rights, Guinea-Bissau had the following achievements: general, presidential and legislative elections; forum on criminal justice; workshop refund the Geneva recommendations after UPR 2010; training of justice operators in human rights for better implementation of legal instruments in this field; conference on justice, impunity and human rights; preparation of the strategic plan for equality and gender equity, ongoing in its validation; preparation of DENARPII (Country Strategy Paper Poverty Reduction, cited above); defining national policy for the

justice sector and the strategic plan for its implementation; free birth registration campaign; installation of biometric centers in the regions for the production of identity cards; establishment of the center of access to justice; visit to Guinea-Bissau of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on poverty; holding of the national conference on health, where the national health system linked issues were discussed; National Health Development Plan (PNDS II) from 2008 to 2017; National Strategic Plan to Fight HIV - AIDS, 2012-2013; colloquium on democracy and strengthening the rule of law; UNODC meeting with parliamentarians and government officials on drugs and crime.

94. We should also highlight the free distribution of textbooks for students of 1st and 2nd cycle, counting for this purpose with the support of partners.

95. Distribution, also with the support of development partners, of impregnated mosquito nets (MILDA).

96. Order of the Hospital Management Secretary of State determines that the gratuity of consultations in Public Health Services for the following categories of the population, namely: children under five years of age, pregnant women and elderly people above sixty years of age.

97. Furthermore, it is noted, on the implementation of the rights of refugees, the granting and legalization for use of land for cultivation and cashew plantation, and the granting of Guinean nationality to applicants, provided they meet the legal requirements under a lasting solution.

VIII. Perspectives and conclusions

98. Guinea-Bissau, after general elections and the inauguration of the new government, outlined a set of objectives and targets to be reached during this term, specifically the implementation of unimplemented recommendations and improving the performance of public institutions in protection, promotion and realization of human rights in our country.

99. To this end, the Government expects to obtain the support of the International Community in achieving these desiderata, and undertakes to make all necessary efforts to fulfill the commitments made by the Guinean State to its partners in the promotion and protection of human rights.

100. The Government requests support from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to undertake follow-up actions which will be timely identified and strengthened by activities of promotion and protection of human rights in Guinea Bissau.

101. Guinea-Bissau needs technical and financial assistance of international institutions, but they should be based on well-defined criteria, leaving national players to gather and prepare projects and execute them according to the actual needs of the country.